

Nation



Volume 9, No. 13 • May 17, 2002

Cree Consortium Gears Up

2002
Good Year For Trapping

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WE AND OUR CHILDREN ARE UNFAIRLY TAXED

The first time I had heard that Northern Stores would put into effect a new federal government policy requiring band numbers to make tax-free purchases, it didn't seem like too much of a big deal. Then I saw a cashier ask a small child of only five or six years for his band number.

The child appeared unable to respond and was aided by a community member, who offered using her band number. I thought this was inappropriate behavior by Northern Stores. Was this child expected to respond with the same level of understanding as a mature adult? Surely before this policy was put into place, all aspects of the effects of this policy were looked at, and how it would affect all customers, young and old.

We brought this matter up with our Chief and a council member and with their support we took a letter to Northern Stores demanding that the tax machines be thrown out of our community. The policy in itself was oppressive and that because of this new tax policy in our community, our children were being denied the freedom to be who they are. They were being denied their identity. After taking the letter to the Northern Store manager, he stated that it was mandatory for them that they ask for band numbers because of the federal government's tax policy. Apparently Northern Stores got fined close to \$200,000 because they did not implement this policy sooner.

He ended by saying that he would send our letter to the

head office.

Two months have passed since we've delivered our letter. After asking around at the band office as to where this issue was at, the Chief directed us to the local tax officer. We received a similar response from the tax officer as the Northern Stores manager. The tax officer however did mention that Northern Stores asked for a beneficiary list, but to no avail, since the beneficiary list was confidential information. He also mentioned that allowing someone else to use your band number is illegal. So if you're standing behind a child at Northern and he or she needs a band number, remember that it's against the law to allow them to use yours.

We felt we had just cause to question the credibility of Northern Stores and whether their quality of service is free of bias toward all their customers, foremost our children. Our children are Status-Indians. It is their inherent right as our children that they too are tax-free and nobody should be allowed to come into our communities and deny them their right.

We are fair people, we allow visitors to come into our communities and set up their businesses. But we are also a people with pride and we cannot simply sit back and allow outsiders to oppress our children.

I will continue to follow this matter and inform the communities of any changes.

By Marlene Herodier-Bearskin

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ON THE COVER

Goose Hunting
Photographer: Neil Diamond
Cover Design: Richard Lawson

NOTHING BUT STATIC

I was actually getting used to the sound of Arnold on the air at seven and eight in the morning and even began to like his heavy Moose accent (because his dialect bothered everyone else, it gave me a strange sense of satisfaction knowing that I'm not the only one with the built-in talent for aggravating the masses) when suddenly, nothing in Cree on the air from Montreal, hallowed headquarters of the SRC/CBC.

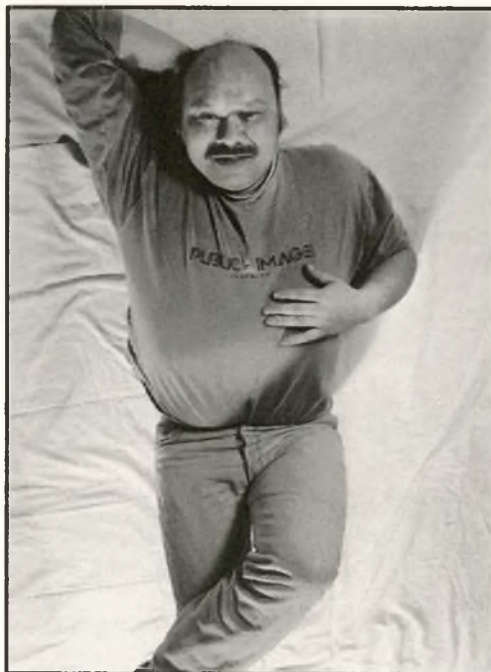
What? No Arnold or Roderick or that silver-tongued sportscaster from Eastmain? Who's going to remind me that the Habs and the Leafs might actually have a chance at the Cup? How am I to know whether to go for a picnic or go hunting when the weather is not told to me in advance?

Relax folks; it's just another strike for the rights of workers, who happen to be locked out just because their rights were infringed. Who supports the strike? Well, for one, I do since no one else will. I'm a believer in rights and in fairness to women in the workplace. Where would we be without women? Who does the hardest work at home? Yo' mama and yo' sista, that's who! Who made sure that the snot was wiped off your face when you were just a young un? Yo' mama, that's who! Who made sure that Maamuitau and all those radio shows from CBC Northern Quebec Service ran for years and years without a hitch? Someone's mama, that's who!

So, for those of you who don't care about your mother or your sister or anything to do with Cree language radio broadcasting, sit back and relax.

But for those who do care, fill out the form in the last issue of the *Nation* and send it in to show your support. At least, don't be like you know who, who purportedly doesn't like Radio-Canada and reacts by making a political statement by saying nothing at all. Silence is golden, I guess.

I remember when Cree language radio was young and was the only radio program that would be listened to by our people. Today, 10 radio stations and numerous programs populate the digital satellite network and can even be picked up on those newfangled bush radios, but



still, the audience tends to miss those broadcasts from Montreal. Perhaps the days of free speech will be replaced by speech sponsored by your local and regional government (if the words are said just right).

That is why communications can be a powerful tool for the people, when used by the people. Where can the voice of the people be heard, elsewhere? So, support the causes that enhance our language and support the causes that right the wrongs done to women through out the ages and send in your support to the staff of CBC Radio North.

I even miss Maamuitau and Ernie's cool staid professionalism on Sundays. When television reached the masses, the Cree language become officially engraved on the mentality of the people. "We can do TV in our own language," was the message, and only when it became taken for granted, was it taken away from us.

Not fair, I say. Where will the cultural balance come from to ease the dilution and erosion of our traditions through years of watching imported television programming? Will our children's heroes come from someone else's imagination as some cartoon character, or will our unsung heroes come in, live on your television, speaking Cree? Make your choice: action or inaction.

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Nation

According to the Canadian Diabetes Association more than two million Canadians have diabetes and 500,000 of them live in Quebec. In fact Quebec has said that it has a diabetes epidemic. A third of those who are diabetic are unaware that this can be a life-threatening situation.

Diabetes is one of the leading cause of death by disease in Canada. It claims 5,000 lives each year. This figure becomes alarming when you consider that only about 25,000 people die each year in Canada. Dr. Dominique Garrel, an endocrinologist at the Centre Hospitalier, Universite de Montreal, says it is good that people are becoming more aware but "taking action in terms of prevention and earlier treatment is even more important." She added that people have to act on the assumption that the reality is that diabetes may affect them personally.

A health survey conducted by Ipsos-Reid revealed people underestimate the severity of the disease. A lot of people didn't know that diabetes could lead to heart disease, blindness, high blood pressure and erectile dysfunction. Some were under the impression that insulin is a cure and that diabetes was curable.

Diabetes care and indirect costs to Canada are estimated at \$9 billion annually. With another million Canadians expected to have diabetes by 2010, many people are worried that the health care system will not be able to handle the higher numbers of affected people.

There is some good news for Type Two Diabetics (most Natives fall under this category) as a new once-a-day medication will finally be available in Canada. Many diabetics have to take multiple medications at different times of the day. One individual had to take eight pills four times a day but found the regime hard as it interfered with his work. He was glad to hear of Amaryl. The pill, while it may replace multiple medications, doesn't replace exercise or losing weight. Amaryl is used with exercise to reduce blood glucose and can be used in co-junction with either metformin or insulin.

According to studies it is highly effective in controlling blood glucose and has an added benefit of being safe to use with renally impaired patients because it is eliminated through both the liver and the kidneys.

Information about Amaryl on the web can be got at: www.aventispharma.ca and general information on diabetes on the web is available at: www.diabetes.ca or www.hc-sc.gc.ca.



Quebec Offers \$450 Million to Inuit Villages

The Quebec government granted 14 Inuit villages a \$450 million development program April 9 in exchange for their agreement to expand hydroelectric generating capacity in their territory.

The agreement was negotiated in secret talks over the last month and drawn up in the form of a treaty. Inuit leaders described it as a new and important recognition of their rights as a self-governing people.

Under the agreement, the Inuit will receive money for parks, road paving and low-cost housing over a 25-year period. The 9,600 Inuit inhabitants of northern Quebec will also receive money for creating jobs through tourism projects and Internet sales of arts and crafts.

Quebec Premier Bernard Landry flew to the village of Tasiujaq for the signing ceremony. The agreement still needs the approval of 14 Inuit communities in balloting to take place over the next month.

Pita Aatami, president of the Makivik Corporation, said at the signing ceremony that the agreement would give new hope to Inuit young people. "This is a new beginning, a new era," he was quoted as saying by the Canadian Press news agency. "We're starting to work as partners."

The agreement does not address the issue of sovereignty, nor do the Inuit renounce their own claims to northern portions of Quebec.

Whose Land is This Land ?

What would you do if someone borrowed something from you but waited

so long to return it, they forgot what you lent them in the first place?

That is the predicament facing thousands of American Indians whose ancestors allowed the U.S. government to rent millions of acres of their tribal land. Over many decades, the government lost track of who owns what land and has not consistently paid the Native American families and tribal councils what they're due.

In the early 1800s, the national government took over portions of American Indian tribal lands and rented them to ranchers, miners and loggers who wanted to use the land's resources. Congress passed the Dawes Act of 1887 to set up a "trust" or formal system of paying Native Americans money the government earned from the use of their land. The Dawes Act divided the land among individual Indian families who were then paid for the share assigned to them. The government also bought several million acres but Indian families were paid very little as traditional Indian culture does not view land as something that can be bought or sold.

About 47 million acres of tribal land is now held in government trust, mostly in the Dakotas, Montana, New Mexico and Arizona. Each year, most Indian families are paid for the land that was allotted to them. However, as family members die and others marry, it becomes harder for the government to account for who owns what land.

But Eloise Cobell of the Blackfeet Indians in Montana says "enough is enough." She is the lead plaintiff in a massive class action lawsuit filed in 1996 on behalf of over 300,000 accounts

Cont on Page 7

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safety record

	2000	2001	Variation
Fatally injured	765	615	-19.6%
Seriously injured	5,386	5,062	-6.0%
Slightly injured	46,103	44,504	-3.5%

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Cont. from page 5

belonging to individual Native Americans. Ms. Cobell claims that the government owes these account holders at least \$10 billion.

The U.S. District judge responsible for Ms. Cobell's lawsuit has already decided the government has not kept adequate records and did not pay the right amount of money to Indian families as compensation. The judge has held former high-ranking officials in contempt of court for not providing needed documentation and current officials face potential contempt charges as well. Now, the court will look at possible ways to fix the system and determine what damages might be awarded.

Source: MacNeil-Lehrer

Law school tailored to native needs

Thanks to an innovative new program in Nunavut, 15 future Inuit lawyers have completed their first semester at law school.

Many native people who go south to study end up dropping out because of culture shock and language difficulties. So the organizers of the new Akitsiraq Law School in Iqaluit, Nunavut, tried a different approach: They brought the school to the students, instead of the other way around.

Now, students have the option of staying close to home and learning about not only mainstream law, but also traditional Inuit law and the Inuit language, Inuktitut.

"We recognized that for most aboriginal

applicants, it's not possible to go to law school; poverty, the demands of family, and living in the South mean there are too many distractions," says Don Galloway, a law professor at the University of Victoria and one of the Akitsiraq's directors.

About 42 percent of the Nunavut population over the age of 15 have no schooling past Grade 9, and just 6 percent have a university degree. Yet public-service jobs are eventually required to be filled by Inuit in proportion to their population in Nunavut.

Currently, Nunavut is home to only one lawyer from the Inuit population - the territory's premier, Paul Okalik.

The law school has the financial backing of the federal and Nunavut governments and is a partnership between the University of Victoria law school in British Columbia (more than 2,200 miles away), the Nunavut Arctic College, and the Akitsiraq Law School Society.

Of the 15 students in the program, 13 are parents. To ensure they're able to support their families while they study, most receive government funding. In return, they will work for their sponsors during school breaks and for at least two years after they graduate. They must also agree to remain in the North for four years after graduation. The classes are taught by professors from various Canadian universities. Most of them fly into the community every week, while at least one professor stays in Iqaluit for the term.

Mr. Okalik, the premier, says that by 2020, he wants his people to have the same living standards as others in Canada. This

program is one step. "If you want legal counsel on any given issue today, you won't likely get it in the territory, especially for Inuit clients who won't likely receive service in their language," he says.

Source: The Christian Science Monitor.

More Ghosts than Natives

You're more likely to see a female ghost or angel on prime-time TV than a Hispanic or Native American woman, says a study being circulated by the National Organization for Women.

The 2001 study, by Martha Lauzen of San Diego State University, found that otherworldly characters such as ghosts and angels constituted 3 per cent of the female characters shown during prime-time, while Hispanics constituted only 2 per cent and Native Americans 0.2 per cent.

Award for Smoke Signals

It takes dedication and passion to tell a story properly. Dan Smoke-Asayenes and Mary Lou Smoke-Asayenes Kwe of London, Ontario, have been telling their people's story to enraptured fans for over a decade.

Dan and Mary Lou, co-hosts of Smoke Signals First Nations Radio, were recognized April 7 as winners of the Most Outstanding Multicultural show in the radio programming category at the 2002 CHRW / TV Western Awards. Dan and Mary Lou also won the award in 1998 and 2000. In 2001, they received special recognition for being on the air for 10 years; bringing their total number of awards to four in the past five years.

"We are very proud of this honour, since four is such a sacred number in our culture" said Dan of the award. Both Mary Lou and Dan were overwhelmed when Barry Woodey, host of Jazz For A Sunday Night, requested to speak to the Smoke Signal's listening audience at the end of their program, and surprised them with an on-air presentation of the awards.

Smoke Signals is a features program that highlights First Nations music, arts, traditional teachings and public affairs. It began in 1991 as a 15-minute window on the environmental show, "Greenwaves", hosted by Jeremy Price. Within the year,

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C to DONALD NICHOLLS

From your proud and happy family



His scholastic record so far:
University of Western Ontario
 B.A. (Economics) 1993
University of Toronto Law School
 LL.B. 1996
McGill University Law School
 B.C.L. 1998
University of Arizona
 LL.M. (Indigenous Peoples Law and Policy) 2002

Donald has successfully completed a
Masters of Law
 at the University of Arizona.

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Contest

Come up with the best idea on how to raise diabetes awareness in your community and win a jacket. These are the same jackets that were given to the walkers when they went to all nine communities by snowshoes.

Send your ideas to:

Cree Board of Health and Social Services of James Bay
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Let us know:

Is there a powwow, gathering, festival, tournament or other community event that you want people to know about?
 Is there something that the company or organization that you work for is doing that should be noticed by others in Native America?
 Is there someone in your community such as an Elder or other role model that you think deserves to be recognized?
 What are your politicians up to?
 Is there something that is hurting Native people and needs to be brought to light so that it can be put to an end?
 What issues (local, national, and international) do you think aren't getting the press they deserve?
 DO you have a story that would make people laugh?

Call *the Nation* at 514-272-3077
 Ask for Will,

****Confidentiality assured****

Something strange happens when you don't advertise...

Nothing!

Smoke Signals had blossomed into a stand-alone two-hour feature and has since maintained a strong public following. Over the last ten years, Dan and Mary Lou have tackled many important issues relevant to First Nations peoples, and conducted stirring interviews with area First Nations Chiefs, academic scholars, actors, and other spiritual leaders from the region.

"Native media plays a significant role in the wider healing movement by educating, organizing and mobilizing audiences into action," said Dan about the show.

Dan and Mary Lou, in addition to co-hosting Smoke Signals, are well known for their roles as helpers and advocates for the First Nations community. They serve on Boards of Directors for several native agencies, and encourage all First Nations brothers and sisters to speak, write, and express themselves through art and music. Although their focus over the years has been directed mainly towards the success of First Nations peoples, after listening to Dan and Mary Lou speak, you'll find they are an inspiration to all.

Smoke Signals First Nations Radio airs from 6:00 to 8:00 EST pm every Sunday on CHRW 94.7FM Radio Western. It can also be heard on home computers on Real Audio or Real Player format at: www.chrwradio.com for live broadcasts.

Tougher Stand on Clergy Sex Abuse

While Roman Catholic churches in the United States struggle with the sexual abuse of minors by priests, church officials in Canada are working with guidelines created a decade ago that determine what to do when such cases arise.

The policy was adopted after a series of lawsuits were filed against residential schools for native people, known as aboriginals, by former students who say they were sexually, physically and psychologically abused when they were forcibly removed from their homes and sent to these institutions.

In 1992, the Canadian Conference of Catholic Bishops passed a policy mandating quick action on allegations of sexual abuse against a priest and requiring the case to be reported to a bishop's representative, whether the accusations seem "doubtful or appear to be founded in fact." Similar principles adopted by the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops that year were nonbinding.

The Canadian guidelines call for protecting children and "vulnerable adults," taking allegations of sexual misconduct seriously and requiring priests and religious personnel to report every allegation of sexual misconduct "even if the alleged abuser is a colleague," according to the policy published by the Canadian Conference of Catholic Bishops in a book called *From Pain to Hope: Report from the Ad Hoc Committee on Child Sexual Abuse*. An accused priest is placed on administrative leave until the investigation is complete.

"Even one act of abuse is too much," said Monsignor Peter Schonenbach, general secretary of the Canadian Conference of Catholic Bishops. "No one will say to a priest who has abused that it is fine to continue. If a priest abuses, his whole life changes with that. If a priest has abused and a complaint comes in and the bishop knows about the abuse . . . from that day on, the priest's whole life will be different. He may remain a priest but will never do ministry again."

Although the sexual abuse scandals in the United States have brought unprecedented attention to the issue, some church officials say the problem is worldwide. Scandals have erupted

recently in churches in Africa, Europe and Australia.

Across Canada beginning in the early 1800s, about 130 residential schools and dozens of day schools were built for aboriginal students. The schools, which were run by the churches under contract with the government, became known for the degradation and molestation of children.

In 1996, the year the last school closed, a government-appointed commission concluded that thousands of aboriginal students died in horrid conditions at the residential schools and thousands more were physically and sexually abused as a result of attempts by the churches and the government to "elevate the savages," according to the report.

Last year four major churches in Canada – the Roman Catholic Church, the Anglican Church of Canada, the Presbyterian church and the United Church of Canada – issued a blanket apology to native people, asking for forgiveness for decades of abuse.

Since the public apologies, the government and churches have been hit with billions of dollars in lawsuits. Evidence emerged that as early as 1960, church and federal officials knew about the abuse but did nothing about it.

In June, the government created the Office of Indian Residential Schools Resolution, which was given the mandate to resolve lawsuits alleging abuse. More than 9,000 suits have been filed against the federal government. Of those filed against the churches, about 70 percent were filed against the Catholic church, 20 percent against the Anglican church and about 10 percent against the Presbyterian and United churches, according to Cindy Clegg, spokeswoman for the schools resolution office.

"Ninety-five percent of the claims involve sexual and physical abuse," Clegg said. The federal government has spent about \$33 million (Canadian) to settle about 450 of the cases. "We are out there settling victims with validated claims," Clegg said. The government has agreed to pay 70 percent of the financial settlements to victims. Churches are responsible for the remaining 30 percent, a sum many say they cannot afford.

Source: Washington Post

Softwood duties an 'attack' on families

British Columbia's forestry minister says recent duties imposed on Canadian softwood lumber exports by the United States are the act of a "hostile foreign power" trying to destroy the country.

The Canadian Press reports that Mike De Jong denounced the new 29 per cent tariff brought down by the U.S. government, calling it a protectionist act to shield a weak American lumber industry. The U.S. says Canada unfairly subsidizes lumber producers and dumps cheaper lumber on their markets. Forestry experts say the duties could kill thousands of jobs across Canada.

"Our forest dependent communities and forest dependent families are under attack by a hostile foreign power," said De Jong, who was at the negotiation table when talks failed. "It made everyone in that room in Washington sick to their stomachs to watch that unfold."

He suggested that American negotiators may have misplaced Canadian compassion and generosity after the September 11 terrorist attacks in Washington and New York. "Clearly there is no appreciation on the American side for the steps we took after September 11, and it's time for us to be very active," said De Jong.

Some unions in the province are calling on the public to boycott U.S. products, but federal Trade Minister Pierre Pettigrew says he would prefer to take the issue to court. Ottawa has already announced it will appear before the World Trade Organization and NAFTA.

2002-A GOOD YEAR FOR TRAPPERS



-North Bay Correspondent Abby Cote-

The Fur Harvesters Auction Inc.'s 11th annual convention, held February 28 to March 2 at their fur barn warehouse in North Bay, Ontario, attracted an unprecedented number of Aboriginal trappers and representatives of Aboriginal trapping organizations.

Ironically, although trapping in many northern areas of Canada is still the traditional occupation for many Aboriginal people, and particularly so in Ontario, there is poor to no representation of Native trappers at fur conventions across North America. Non-Native trappers have several national and provincial organizations representing their interests. Unfortunately, Aboriginal trappers do not have a national organization to date that represents their interests, although many First Nation communities do have their own trappers' cooperatives and organizations.

The Cree of James Bay have been very successful with their Cree Trappers Association, which handles the raw fur trapped in the James Bay region and deals directly with the fur buyers instead of going through an auction house. They also have a program in place that pays a set price per pelt to the trapper so that the trapper does not have to wait for a fur auction in order to collect payment. The people of the North West Territories have their own fur management department handled by Guy Erasmus who is the Resource Development Officer with the Wildlife and Fisheries Division of the Resources, Wildlife & Economic Development department of the NWT Government. Aboriginal trappers of both the NWT and northern Manitoba deal with their own raw fur production programs.

The Fur Harvesters Auction Inc. (FHA) in North Bay is

the largest fur management company in Canada and is solely trapper-owned and -operated. It is also unique in that the management board of the FHA is a 50/50 split between a Native and non-Native Board of Directors. However, in past years turnout of Native trappers for the annual convention has been poor. The FHA hoped that this year's participation and involvement of Aboriginal trappers and their families would be better than in the past. The Fur Institute of Canada met with representatives of Aboriginal trapping organizations from all over Canada in North Bay a day prior to the start of the convention. The purpose of this meeting was to hold trapping standards workshops and seminars and the participants stayed in town to attend the convention.

Some of the Aboriginal delegates at the convention discussed the possibility of developing their own raw fur management programs like that of the Cree Trappers Association. Other delegates discussed the possibility of working with the FHA to establish raw fur management and better payment programs for Aboriginal trappers.

"Our political strategy has to be to unit and protect our land base," said Roy Polson, President of the Algonquin Trappers Association. "We have to know our traditional lands and who is trapping where. We have to get our kids back out on the land. Trapping is our history. We have to work together as Aboriginal people, with non-Native trappers and with the various ministries."

Nancy Polson added that the loss of land is devastating to those who rely on trapping. "We're not able to exercise a lot of our traditional ways," she said. "Our land is important. A lot

of people down south or near large city centres are unable to trap and use their lands in traditional ways so we need to unite and work together to harvest our resources. Our teachings are based on respect, if people know the basic principle of respect then they will learn to respect the land, they will learn to respect the animals that are on the land and they'll learn to respect the people who use the land. We need to bring the people together and inform them. If we are informed then we are no longer ignorant.

"I'm glad that we came here, it's good for the kids, it's good for the family to see all that is involved in trapping," she continued. "We want our kids to carry on our traditions and be able to utilize our land base properly. Our kids are part of a long line of traditional people who have always lived off the land, our family has always trapped, hunted and fished."

"What is really devastating is that a lot of our land is being lost. We're not able to exercise a lot of our traditional ways. Our land is important. A lot of people down south or near large city centres are unable to trap...."

Roy Polson chimed in that, "some people are well informed, they know a lot of things but even in their own communities there may be different reasons why they don't speak out and they say 'why speak?' It's a long process but it only takes one person maybe to turn around and say 'let's listen to these people'. By listening to each other we can gain understanding and then we can begin to work together. I see a lot of people really trying."

Roy Polson's aunt is Dorothy Polson, a 70 years-young traditional Muskego grandmother from Waskaganish in James Bay. From 1980 to 1993 Dorothy Polson won the Women's Canadian Championship for beaver skinning and handling at the Annual Meeting of the Ontario Trapper's Association 10 times, seven times consecutively (1980 - '86, '88, '92 and '93). The last time that Dorothy Polson attended the convention was in 2000. At that convention Dorothy had not planned on entering the beaver skinning contest and had not brought her skinning tools, but she was talked into entering and took third place using some else's tools. Prior to that she had not attended the convention for seven years.

Dorothy had planned to attend the convention this year but unfortunately at the last minute was unable to come.

The FHA convention annually attracts large public crowds as well as drawing trappers from all over Ontario, other provinces



Ed Jolly, Lindsey Cote and Paul Coon Come

and the United States. It is a great opportunity for trappers of all ages to test their skills against one another. There are pelt handing contests for children, youth, women and men as well as fur handling (skinning) demonstrations, trap setting contests, seminars, a pancake breakfast, a fashion show, vendors representing all areas of trapping, hunting and fishing, numerous draws of which top prizes are fur coats, a dance, a banquet, award presentations and speeches. The conference offers workshops for school kids on the Friday and this year as always several schools sent busloads of kids. This event is also a great opportunity to better educate the general public on the history and current need for humane trapping. North Bay and the surrounding area was largely dependent on the fur trade and is rich in the history and development of the industry. All the area around the city of North Bay is still trapped.

Overall, Aboriginal input and participation at this year's FHA convention was higher than ever. The highlight of the award presentation evening was a emotional, passionate and eloquent speech given by Thomas Coon of the Cree Trappers Association. Coon started out speaking about children and the important and primary role that parents have as teachers of their children. He then went on to speak about the need for Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal people to work together. Coon spoke for about 20 minutes, during which time his words received several rounds of applause and when he was finished the room filled with some 200-300 people, mostly non-Native, gave him a thunderous round of applause.

"It is good to be back here, I've been away for a while," said Coon. "The last time I was here I brought some young kids with me because we had had some problems with suicides in our communities. I brought these kids here to show them that there are people who care. I tried to show these kids that they could have fun. I couldn't bring those little girls and little boys this time. We have some good teachers but the best teachers are mum and dad. Children learn from home, by watching and caring. It is from home that they start to see their future and their rights. Let's all be careful what we say and do at home."

Coon then went on to outline the recent history of protest



Guy Erasmus and Thomas Coon

against the fur industry and the importance of maintaining the tradition of trapping and fur harvesting for both Native and non-Native people.

"There are certain people, people who sacrifice quite a bit of time for us, in our communities and here at the Fur Harvesters," he said. "There are people who work long hours for us, people who help us market and sell our furs.

"All the years of protests against fur trapping, 17 years of protests and we are still here trapping. We were targets, both Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal trappers were told that 'trapping must be stopped.' That was 1985. Today we are still trapping. We demonstrated what we can do if we work together. You people here have demonstrated something important, you have demonstrated that Native and non-Native people can work together. The FHA's board of directors is 50 per cent Native and 50 per cent non-Native and succeeds. If this partnership can work here, surely it will work elsewhere.

"Yes, some things have to change, sometimes we have to change and sometimes the truth hurts. We have to change the way we think about each other. We have to change the way we talk about each other. We have to change the way we have treated each other. It is time we set aside our political differences, the differences that divided you and I. You need me as much as I need you. We have a common interest and that interest is to ensure that the fur market that has put the bread and butter on the table for our children continues to exist.

"We must try walk this world side by side, we live side by side, and work side by side – together. No one will ever take away our livelihood, take our trapping and hunting heritage away from us. My last point – we each have a little bit of time in this world and we have things to do. We are so fortunate to live in Canada with all the war and fighting between nations elsewhere. We are so privileged to live in Canada, a country

that has peace and freedom. A land and country that is rich in natural resources. My dear friends, let us not forget, let us be thankful that we are richly blessed to be able to live in a country called Canada, a land, a country that we can truly call our own. Our home and Native land."

After Coon's speech the evening broke up and everyone stated to mingle. People, primarily non-Natives, repeatedly thanked Coon for his speech.

"I can't believe how many people have thanked me for my words tonight," he said later. "I only said what had to be said. I hoped to get the message out and it seems that I did. I guess people were ready to hear what I had to say. But this is a humbling experience – having all these people keep telling me that my speech was good. I only said what I feel in my heart, now lets see if people act on

what I said."

The 2001-2002 trapping season in Ontario was one of the best weather-wise in recent years, the long fall and late appearance of snow and cold temperatures allowed many trappers to reach their quotas well before Christmas. Fur prices have fluctuated over the past few years but the past three years have seen the prices for various types of fur steadily rise. Although beaver prices have dropped slightly from last year, marten, mink and fisher have continued to increase. Joanne Noseworthy of the Ontario Fur Managers Federation claims that prices for red fox are higher than they've been since 1985.

For the Aboriginal delegates at this year's convention, the consensus was that the trapping season had been a good one. Current fur prices holding steady or rising slightly is also a good sign. The Native delegates did a lot of networking amongst themselves, agreeing that Native trappers needed a national organization and a system that would enable them to work together. This years' convention saw the Aboriginal trappers and their representatives treated with a great deal of respect and appreciation and the Native delegates realized in turn that they need to attend more conventions like this one.

"We were invited to come to North Bay by the Fur Institute of Canada for workshops and updates on humane trapping standards and to see which traps have been improved," stated Paul Coon Come of the Cree Trappers Association. "We then in turn, pass this information on to our trappers so that they follow the trapping standards. Humane trapping has always been important to us as it follows our own traditional teachings about the proper way to care for the animals that we trap. We came down for the workshops on humane trapping standards and we stayed over for the convention. We came away with a good feeling about the networking that went on this weekend. Thomas Coon said a lot of good words that we all need to act on."

The Cree Consortium

An interview With President Don MacLeod

By Will Nicholls

Don MacLeod is the Interim president of the Cree Consortium. The Cree Consortium is composed of Cree businesses that want to benefit from the negotiated contracts with Hydro-Quebec's EM-1 and Rupert River Diversion projects. He was selected by local businessmen in Mistissini to represent them and when he arrived in Val d'Or he was appointed to the position. MacLeod sees the consortium of Cree businesses as something that could prove to be a future economic engine for the Cree communities and people. He envisions a new relationship with non-Natives in the James Bay region where they will work together to ensure that new investment helps northern communities rather than just returning to the south.

MacLeod says all interested people should attend a June 4, 5 & 6 gathering of the northern businesses. Invitations have been extended by the mayor of Val d'Or and the Cree Grand Chief. Don MacLeod will be a guest speaker. For those who can't wait here's the scoop on the Cree Consortium.

How old is the consortium?

It was formed in December when people thought the Agreement between Quebec and the Cree would be signed. We had to have something ready so we could start negotiating with them for the negotiated contracts. People wanted to make sure that all the communities were involved. Billy Diamond was the first one to call the meeting because he was the head negotiator with Hydro-Quebec. He told us that we had to set something up to be able to meet with Hydro and they wanted the business people, who would get the contracts. They wanted everyone to have a chance at the action so on December 7th he called a meeting in Val d'Or and from there the consortium was formed.

Now what kind of businesses are currently in the consortium?

Right now we are currently recruiting people like the construction businesses, air companies, transport and services. There will be services that are needed later on like the catering and janitorial services. When the town is built they'll need bus services. They're even talking about having a *depanneur* in the town and small shops. There will be spin-offs such as the trailers will probably have cable for example.

This is an opportunity for the Native people to get into these businesses.

Do you see the Crees getting, what was it \$982 million in contracts?

That's if they go into the second phase. The first is \$300 million of contracts. That's the road construction, the slashing, the building of the big camp that'll hold over 2,000 people and the access roads, the fuel they'll need for the airplane companies. The Crees have the opportunity to come in on this through the negotiations.



Do you think the Crees will be able to provide \$300 million worth of contracts?

The way it works is the first priority is the Native people, then afterwards we will look at joint ventures with the non-Native people in the region. They'll be brought in too. The way we are trying to do is to work with the northern people too. We want to do things together. We don't want it to be like before where everyone comes from just down south getting all the contracts and we end up with nothing. The contracts have to be with Natives and non-Natives of the northern region.

So are you looking at a new relationship with towns like Chibougamau and Matagami?

Marlene Kitchen and myself went and met with the James Bay consortium, the non-Native consortium in the region in Lebel-Sur-Quevillon. On some things we have to work together. The meeting went well. It was an opening. We basically told them that we are in the same area and like them we are looking for employment for the people in the north. They're also looking at joint ventures with us.

One of the things we'll have to work together on is the QCC cards. That's the card you need to get onto construction jobs. We don't have a place to get it in the region because we are tied

up with the Lac Saint-Jean area. This affects Mistissini, Ouje-Bougoumou, Chibougamau, Waswanipi and Chapais for example. All those permits or cards that are issued are pretty much full. Any new opening that comes up, well, there's already a list of people waiting for them. So people in this area don't have much of a chance. That's the type of things we have to start working on right away if we want to see employment in construction for both our peoples. I've mentioned that to Michel Létourneau, the deputy that represents northern Quebec for the PQ. He told me that they are working on it.

Another thing the Crees have done is they wrote a letter to the Grand Chief and said if we don't get this settled then we are going to get any jobs. We told him it would be a shame if you negotiate all this and find out we can't do it because we don't have the papers. This is an issue that have to be dealt with by the governments.

The best would be a new zone where we wouldn't be attached to Lac Saint Jean region.

Isn't Lac Saint-Jean a little far from most of the northern towns?

That's the way the government put it together. That's where we started to have problems. If you look around Lac Saint-Jean there are some pretty big towns and cities in the area. The way it works is that you have to prove that the labour force is five per cent below what is needed in the region before any new cards are issued. So when you factor in the large population it becomes a problem to get those cards. Where do you think the Crees are on that list? Most likely we are at the bottom.

This is an example of the things the two consortiums can work towards together.

Do you see that the negotiations for the Crees are still ongoing in areas like this?

The way the contracts are to be dealt with is that the consortium would select the companies to look at it and see what type of bid would work best. If you look at slashing, Mistco would be in there. They would take Cree Construction and Waskaganish, Ouje-Bougoumou has done slashing for the powerlines. The four of them would get together and look at the contract and put a package together. They would then bring it back to the consortium with their recommendations. If they say this is the price and this is the best way to look at it, the four parties agree to it. They might say certain companies would spearhead it, then that's how it would be negotiated with the understanding that the Crees are together on this. That way everyone feels they were fairly treated.

That's the same with road construction or any other contract that comes in.

Has there been any problems with that process so far?

Well, you probably already heard about it.

I was looking for it in your own words.

Okay, there were supposed to be two companies working on it, Mistco and Cree Construction. Mistco has a company called Selecto, which works with Troilus. Mistco holds the contract for catering. It's a very good deal. The profits are split 50/50 and the hiring policy is minimum 40 per cent Native. Selecto does the training.

So anyhow the catering contract is for the HQ small camp of 250 people. We were supposed to have 20 days to make the bid,



but somebody telephoned Steven Bearskin [the President of Cree Construction]. The person told Steve that they were getting calls from Hydro asking for the bid and instead of saying, "no, we have 20 days, that's it," they felt pressured and asked to put the bid in. Steve said he tried to contact us and when he couldn't he told the guy to go ahead. So the whole thing got people upset.

The representatives from eight of the communities said it seemed like Cree Construction was trying to take everything over again. The first meeting we had about this we talked and the second meeting I was given a directive to write a letter.

Plus then the Grand Chief heard about it. He said if this is what is going to be going on then they will step in and take over this. He said they supported the consortium by resolution and if there is going to be problems they will put another team in. You see these are negotiated contracts so why bid against each other.

We have to start trusting each other. The board to show that they are serious about it removed Steve from the executive of the consortium. He is still part of the consortium but he doesn't sit on the executive or the board of directors.

The board, by the way, is composed of community representatives and the executive is composed of businessmen from different Cree companies. The president is on both.

This way we have people who understand what Hydro wants and people who understand what the communities want.

Do you see this as a good thing that a problem like this was caught early in the game?

Yes, I think it's a serious move because we are dealing with the Cree communities and the trust has to be there for us to work together. We still have people in all the places saying we should be able to bid on our own. In Mistissini I have people all the time saying that. I have to explain it's a negotiated contract and we shouldn't be bidding against each other.

There is going to be an opportunity for public bidding and tendering also. That's where we can bid against each other if we want to but these are negotiated contracts.

The negotiated contracts are for the benefit of everyone. For example, if the catering takes off in a few years it would take 300 people to run the big town.

So there will be plenty of opportunities for everyone?

Yes, because you will need 200 manpower there all the time. There's cooks, janitors and other services. We have to look at this as a stepping stone. We can't say when the contracts are finished that everything is over and there is no more work. Once we are trained when a mine opens up or any other development we'll have the people to put into place for the jobs. We can take the bids to make a future. The last project was 25 years ago and we should have had engineers ready. We lost an opportunity.

This all sounds good, so my next question would be: How do you join the consortium?

Anyone who wants to join can and there is a registration fee of \$50 to join. You can contact George Pachanos at Cree Construction in Montreal. Right now I can tell you I don't think very many people have joined it. When the consortium is fully chartered we will have to have memberships though. We are trying to figure out how to do it. People have looked at charging by how many men you have on the job and others are saying a one per cent of the contract to be charged. This way we will be self-supporting. It will eventually need to be self-financing. Out of the \$900 million in contracts there should be something that will keep it going.

The catering contract awarded to Cree Construction will have a percentage and a penalty attached to it. We had to do this because if companies get pressured by Hydro to submit a bid without going through the consortium then it will just split us all apart and nobody will benefit. We'll probably end up losing most of the contracts in the end. So it's important that Cree's stick together. It's going to be a hard road.

We have about 100 people who want to come in and start businesses. By this I mean people from outside of the Cree communities. One guy in Mississauga came up to me and showed me a fax. He didn't even know what it was about. The fax was offering to make him a shareholder in a company. They wanted to use him and he didn't even know where they got his name. It was an attempt to access the Cree negotiated contracts by non-Natives.

That's part of what the consortium is there for. We have to watch that. We can't have these people coming in and the Cree's don't benefit.

Another thing is the consortium has Johnny Saganash. His job will be to see that a percentage of Cree's are hired for these contracts. This isn't in the Hydro Agreement but it is a part of the consortium's policies.

We want to make sure that Cree students like engineers and that will have jobs up there when it happens.

How are you going to get the skills to the people who don't have them right now?

There's money for training. Our next move is to meet with Henry Mianscum and the other schools to see how we set up the type of training for positions that will be required for the future. Don't forget if in the Agreement it says if you take someone as an apprentice you get money for a portion of their

wages. This is an incentive for the companies to train and hire us.

It's the same with the companies we are talking to. Take Selecto. If they train people they told us it doesn't matter they will have jobs wherever they want in the world because they have been trained to do that work. The consultant we met started out as a dishwasher when he was young. One of the guys in the company recognized him as a good potential and started training him. Now he's the chief consultant for them. Joint partnership in this case isn't for individuals. It's something that benefits the community in more ways than one. These are the types of considerations that will be more favoured by the Cree.

I feel through this all that the people in the north have to start working together, Native and non-native or we will end up getting nothing out of it. We have to start developing skills and training for our youth too.

We get good experiences now. Take, for example, Mount



Cummings that was done just outside of Chibougamau. That contract was awarded to someone outside from Lac Saint-Jean. There's the town of Chibougamau sitting right there. There was a \$24,000 difference between the successful bidder and the bidder from Chibougamau. They could have told the guy that if he was willing to lower his price it could have been good for Chibougamau. I heard the contractor didn't even finish the job because they ran out of money so the contractor must have gotten more to finish the job. These are things we have to start working on in the north. The Mayor of Chibougamau, Don Bombar is always preaching on that theme that we have to start working together.

Mackenzie Bay is on the verge of opening up. If the town of Chibougamau and other communities in the area take on the challenge then Chibougamau will triple in size because they will put the mill in there. They will produce the liquid for the batteries right there. So that means a lot of employment and all the spin-offs that come with the increased economic activity. That's just the first part of it. There's 50 years of work right there. Hydro wants to get that for sure since they will be able to store power. There are already buyers for the finished products.

There's a lot of things happening like the diamond development so I think we can say there are a lot of opportunities opening up for everyone.

WILLIE CHICKEN ON THE GRILL

by Will Nicholls

The girls are finding it hard to deal with the 10 items for the cook-off but luckily we have a few recipes that are simple and easy to make. This issue is dedicated to fowl play in the kitchen. Ouch, God or at least some one who hates puns will get me for that one and I feel I deserve whatever just desserts I get.

The reason why I chose this theme is the love affair Crees have had with chicken and other fowl. The love affair is easily proven as I remember how my old buddy Willie Chicken got his nickname. His dad, when returning from the bush, used to buy a bunch of chickens and have a family feast with them. He was the first Cree "Chicken" and it was only natural I guess to pass on the nickname to Willie.

In my own family I remember how grandma used to love chicken. So much so that when my Uncle Don (then a bachelor) and myself were living with her, Don had to ask her to cut out the chicken as that was all we had eaten for five days running. Eggs for breakfast, chicken sandwiches and/or soup for lunch and some type of a main chicken course for supper. A very versatile bird the chicken.

As you will notice I start off with a Cornish hen recipe that I recently came up with. It was so good that two days later I made the same dish and allowed a couple of co-workers a small taste. They were as enthusiastic about it as I am.

Will's Cornish Hen for one

I was looking at the Cornish hen recipes and decided that I would just strike out on my own so I looked in the fridge and cupboards to see what I had that would look interesting and healthy. Below is the delightful product of my imagination.

1 Cornish Hen

- 1 teaspoon liquid smoke hickory flavoured
- 1 teaspoon Worcestershire sauce
- 1 teaspoon pepper
- dash salt
- 1 tablespoon garlic butter
- 1 bunch asparagus
- 2 teaspoon Italian seasoning
- 1 teaspoon celery salt
- 1/2 cup walnuts

1. Preheat oven to 350 degrees F. Take liquid smoke and Worcestershire sauce and rub on chicken. Add pepper, salt and Italian seasoning on top of chicken.

2. Cut heads off of asparagus. Coat with walnuts, dash of Italian seasoning and garlic butter. Stuff in cavity of hen.

3. Take remainder of asparagus as well as the asparagus stems, add any remaining walnuts and lay on bottom of pan. Put chicken on top of it. Put in oven and cook for one hour. Take top off and cook for another half hour at 400 degrees F.

Tex-Mex Stove Top Chicken

An easy-to-make dish. Depending on the salsa you choose, it can be as spicy or as mild as you and your family want it to be.

- 1 tablespoon canola oil
- 6 chicken breast halves, cubed
- 1/2 cup chopped green pepper
- 1/2 cup chopped onion
- 3 cups chunky salsa
- 1 cup chicken broth
- 1 1/2 cup quick cooking rice
- 1 cup shredded Monterey Jack cheese

1. Heat a large heavy skillet over medium high heat. Add the oil and chicken and sauté until the chicken is lightly browned.

2. Add the green pepper and onion and sauté until the chicken is thoroughly cooked.

3. Add the salsa and broth and bring to a boil.

4. Stir in the rice and mix well.

5. Toss the cheese on top of the dish, cover, and remove from the heat. Let rest for five minutes to cook the rice and serve hot.

Southern Pecan Chicken

- 6 boneless, skinless chicken breasts, pounded thin
- 4 cups ice water and ice
- 4 tsp salt
- 3/4 cup ground pecans
- 2 whole eggs
- 2 tbslp milk
- 2 tbslp honey
- 1/2 tsp salt
- 1/2 tsp black pepper, coarse ground fresh

1. Marinate the chicken breasts in iced salt water for 30 minutes.

2. Beat milk with honey, and then add beaten eggs, salt and fresh ground pepper.

3. Put egg wash in one shallow bowl, and pecan meal in another.

4. Dip each chicken breast in the egg wash, then into the pecan meal and pat the meal into the breast to form a crust.

5. Place the breasts in a shallow baking pan that has been sprayed with cooking spray, and bake for 35 minutes at 375 degrees F, or until the breasts are done through.

Chicken and Rice Jubilee

- 1 pound boneless skinless chicken breast
- 2 tablespoons butter
- 1/2 cup sliced mushrooms
- 1 onion, finely chopped
- 2 cloves garlic, crushed
- 1 tablespoon corn starch
- 1 cup long grain rice
- 2 1/4 cups milk
- 2 cups diagonally cut carrots
- 1 green pepper, cut in strips
- 1 red pepper, cut in strips
- 1 teaspoon salt
- 1/2 teaspoon pepper
- 1/2 cup chopped cashews almonds, toasted

1. Cut chicken into 1-inch cubes.
2. In a large frying pan, cook chicken in butter over medium heat until chicken is lightly browned on all sides.
3. Add mushrooms, onion and garlic; cook until onion is softened.
4. Add corn starch, rice and cook for 2 min.
5. Stir in milk, carrots, pepper strips, salt and pepper. Bring to a boil. Cover and simmer for 20 to 25 minutes, stirring occasionally.
6. Just before serving, sprinkle with cashews.

Chicken Wings Buffalo style

- 6 tablespoons (3 ounces) Louisiana or other hot sauce
 1/2 stick margarine
 1 tablespoon white vinegar
 1/8 teaspoon of celery seed
 1/8-1/4 teaspoon Cayenne pepper
 1/4 teaspoon red pepper
 1/8 teaspoon of garlic salt
 dash of black pepper
 1/4 teaspoon of Worcestershire Sauce
 1-2 teaspoon of Tabasco

The Sauce:

1. Mix all the ingredients in a small sauce pan over low heat until the margarine is completely melted. Stir occasionally. This makes enough for about 30 wings.

The Wings:

1. Fry the wings in a deep fryer set at 375 degrees F., using vegetable or peanut oil. Frying 15 wings at a time for 12-15 minutes works well.
 2. Drain the wings for a few minutes then put them in a bowl.
 3. After all the wings have been fried, pour the sauce over them, cover the bowl, and shake to completely coat the wings.
- * They can be eaten immediately, or you can put them on a baking sheet and bake them for a few minutes to get an extra-crispy coating.

Wild Rice Casserole

- 1 cup wild rice, uncooked
 1 pound fresh mushrooms, sliced thickly
 1 cup minced onion
 3 cups vegetable broth
 3 cloves garlic, minced

1. Rinse wild rice well.
2. Combine wild rice, mushrooms, onion, and garlic in a 3 quart casserole dish.
3. Pour broth over it all, cover, and bake at 350 degrees for about 1 1/2 hours.

Leith's Broiled Veggies

Almost as tasty as Leith herself, this kind of side dish will also wow a crowd of six to eight people.

- 20-24 large brussel sprouts
 1 red onion or 1/2 Spanish onion
 3 small peppers: green, red and yellow varieties
 12-16 white mushrooms or 4-5 portabella mushrooms
 1 pound string beans or asparagus
 1/2 pound feta cheese
 1/2 can whole or sliced black olives drained

- 1/2 tsp crushed black pepper corns

Marinade

- 1/2 cup olive oil
 1/3 cup lemon juice
 1/4 cup balsamic vinegar
 2 tsp oregano
 1 tsp salt

1. Cut all veggies into large chunks.
2. Toss all ingredients in a large bowl except feta, olives and crushed pepper corns.
3. Marinate veggies for at least three hours before broiling. Mix them around every so often.
4. Place on cookie sheets and broil for 25 minutes close to the heat element. Stir frequently so they won't burn (they should brown though.)
5. Take veggies out and add feta, olives and crushed pepper corns to the top.
6. Broil for five to seven minutes longer. Serve hot.

Fowl Grill'n Tips

Fowls are chicken, ducks or other feathered friends. Generally they are considered healthier than other meats to eat. The following tips are for the BBQ.

1. Coat the cooking grate lightly with vegetable spray to keep the chicken from sticking. Prepare the fire 1/2 hour before grilling.
2. Add flavour through aromatic wood chips like hickory, mesquite or fruitwood.
3. The grill will be ready when the charcoal is about 80 percent ashy-gray. Cook chicken over a medium-hot fire. You should be able to hold your hand a few inches above the coals for 3 to 4 seconds.
4. Turn fowl every 5 minutes to insure even cooking and doneness.
5. Cook fowl until the juices run clear. The white meat should reach an internal temperature of 170-175 degrees F. Dark meat should reach an internal temperature of 180-185 degrees on a meat thermometer.
6. Use tongs instead of a fork to turn the fowl. This will prevent loss of juices.
7. Skin on a whole fowl or parts helps prevent drying and toughening. You can pull the skin off after the chicken is cooked, if desired.

Blueberries & Polar Bears

Webber's Northern Lodges
 Our Most Requested Recipe



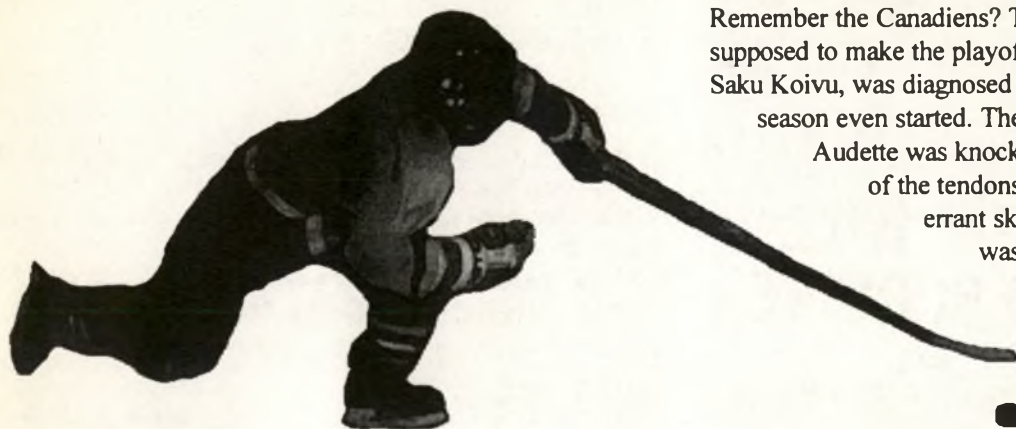
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WILL ON THE GRILL

Playoff Fever: A View From The Stands

By Brian Zelnicker



Hockey Night In Toronto?

Question: What's plaid, striped and polka-dotted on the outside and blue on the inside?

Answer: Don Cherry.

I thought Hockey Night In Canada was a thinly veiled Hockey Night In Toronto, but thanks to Don Cherry the veil is officially off. The King of Coach's Corner should stop blowing his dough on clothing that only the blind could love, since he needs but two items in his wardrobe - a Maple Leafs home jersey and a Maple Leafs away jersey. Aside from Cherry's lack of vision and inability to count to six (like when he blew it as coach of the Bruins with too many men on the ice), he keeps referring to the Maple Leafs as "we." Unfortunately for Don, his beloved Maple Leafs are not the most interesting story of this year's playoffs. They are, in a word, mediocre. So what the heck is Don on about? There could be a touch of the supernatural to it. You can see it in his right eye when he looks at the camera. It's the only plausible explanation. Don Cherry is possessed by the soul of Harold Ballard.

No Respect

Speaking of the Leafs, shed a tear for Shayne Corson. In the wake of a violent and hard-fought struggle with the New York Islanders in the first round, the rugged Maple Leaf winger shared his thoughts with the media. He spoke of how young players in the game today have no respect for old time hockey. In a word, the sportsmanship just isn't there anymore. This comment came on the heels of a match in which Corson attempted to kick Islanders tough guy Eric Cairns in the midst of a tussle. Thanks for leading by example, Shayne.

The Enchanted Habs

Welcome to a magical land of elves and pixies and wizards, where nobody grows old and wounds heal themselves. This fantasyland is where you'll find the Montreal Canadiens. Remember the Canadiens? They're the team that wasn't supposed to make the playoffs, especially when their captain, Saku Koivu, was diagnosed with abdominal cancer before the season even started. Then newly acquired sniper Donald Audette was knocked out of commission when most of the tendons in his forearm were severed by an errant skate. Defenceman Sheldon Souray was sidelined with a wrist injury. Goalie Jeff Hackett also joined the disabled list. To make matters worse, in the heat of a close race for the final playoff berth in the Eastern Conference, the New York Rangers added Pavel "the Russian Rocket" Bure to a

lineup filled with multi-millionaires.

For all their cash and talent, the Rangers made it only as far as the golf course this spring, while the Habs continue to roll along. To knock off the top-seeded Bruins is one thing, to knock them off led by a cancer patient, a one-armed man and a grizzled veteran on the verge of retirement is another. Koivu's performance has been nothing short of remarkable. He's leading the team on offence, knocking down guys twice his size and still going for his weekly blood test. Audette's arm, by his own admission, is only back to 60 per cent of where it should be, yet he scored the overtime winner against Carolina in game three at the Molson Centre. Doug Gilmour started the season with the "past his prime" tag around his neck, but his grit, talent and experience have helped propel the Canadiens into the second round of the post-season. It also helps to have a force field by the name of Jose Theodore.

The Teflon G.M.

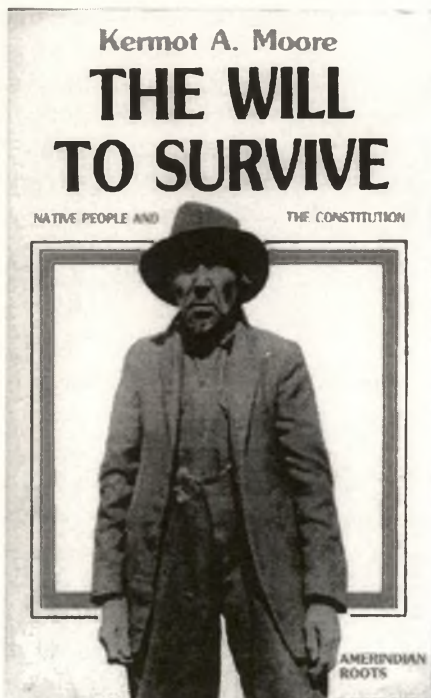
How hard can it be to get fired from a job? You'd think that if you spent years working for a company by wasting money foolishly and not getting results the boss would eventually call you into the office for a short farewell. Not if you're Bobby Clarke of the Philadelphia Flyers.

The Flyers pulled off one of the most disappointing playoff campaigns ever when they were stifled by the Ottawa Senators. The Flyers managed only two goals in five games even though they boast the likes of John Leclair, Mark Recchi, Adam Oates, Keith Primeau, Jeremy Roenick and Simon Gagne. The Flyers had a line-up of all-stars and a payroll double that of the Senators, they traded away four future draft picks to get Adam Oates, and they spent years dwelling in the shadow of the Lindros disaster. Maybe Clarke has a force field of his own.

BY WILL NICHOLLS

The Will To Survive
By Kermot A. Moore
Published by
Hyperborea Publishing
1984

This book talks about Native Peoples and the Canadian constitution. What is great about this book is the little stories and personal tales by Natives preserved in the book. The way they are written is the way First Nations people speak and you can easily tell that when you read it. These tales serve to bring the book together and help you understand the rights that are being talked about. There are some great old black and white photos that everyone will enjoy. James Bay Crees will immediately recognize Richard Kishtabish. All in all this a great primer on Native rights and piece of First Nations history.



Mi' kmaq Treaties On Trial

By William C. Wilken
Published by University of Toronto Press 2002

William Wilken is an associate professor of history at York University and this book reflects that. Wilken is himself one of the players in his book. He was one of the historians who gathered and presented crucial evidence in the now-famous Marshall case.

This book looks at the original 1726 Treaty and shows how the intercultural relationships and power dynamics of the past have shaped the law. It explains how it became necessary to have the Marshall case because of the present social climate. It also shows that oral agreements should be put into writing because the oral traditions of First Nations Peoples are not always respected in western civilization.

It is in many ways a fascinating book and one that every Native

leader should read to get an insight into what can happen to a negotiated treaty or agreement between two differing cultures.

Top Ten Bestseller List

1 DADDY'S LITTLE GIRL, by Mary Higgins Clark. (Simon & Schuster, \$26) After the man convicted of killing her sister is set free on parole, an investigative reporter discovers new information about the murder.

2 STAR WARS: EPISODE 2 — ATTACK OF THE CLONES, by R. A. Salvatore. (Lucas/Del Rey/Ballantine, \$26) As the Republic edges toward disaster, Anakin Skywalker falls for Senator Padmé Amidala.

3 THE NANNY DIARIES, by Emma McLaughlin and Nicola Kraus. (St. Martin's, \$24.95) A satirical look at rich and powerful New Yorkers through the eyes of an Upper East Side nanny.

4 CITY OF BONES, by Michael Connelly. (Little, Brown, \$25.95) The Los Angeles homicide detective Harry Bosch hunts for the person who killed a 12-year-old boy 20 years earlier.

5 A THOUSAND COUNTRY ROADS, by Robert James Waller. (John M. Hardy, \$19.95) Robert Kincaid and Francesca Johnson return in a sequel to *The Bridges of Madison County*.

6 EVERYTHING'S EVENTUAL, by Stephen King. (Scribner, \$28) A collection of 14 "dark tales" about the strange and the supernatural.

7 THE SUMMONS, by John Grisham. (Doubleday, \$27.95) A law professor who has been called home to Mississippi by his father, a dying judge, discovers more than \$3 million in cash in the old man's study.

8 THREE FATES, by Nora Roberts. (Putnam, \$25.95) The great-great-grandchildren of a petty thief who survived the sinking of the *Lusitania* are determined to recover a small, priceless statue he took from the ship.

9 THE SHORT FOREVER, by Stuart Woods. (Putnam, \$24.95) In London, the lawyer and investigator Stone Barrington must deal with former lovers and murder.

10 ATONEMENT, by Ian McEwan. (Nan A. Talese/Doubleday, \$26) A chronicle of the disintegration of an English family's idyllic life.

Memories of Spring

Xavier Kataquapit

I have a lot of memories of getting wet this time of year. As the warmer weather melts the large quantities of snow our world here up north turns from frozen snow and ice to slush and water.

Before my home community of Attawapiskat developed a proper drainage system for the melting snow in the spring, we had to deal with many problems and inconveniences.

The warm weather created water obstacles everywhere in the community. People who followed familiar paths and trails across town suddenly had to deal with roadside drainage ditches that were covered in a deceptively solid slushy layer of snow. As they walked over the soft snow, the slush gave way and one's feet sunk into the water. In some areas, the slowly melting ice inside culverts that covered driveways prevented water from properly draining and created large pools in the community.

To deal with this time of the year my mom, Susan, took out our black, rubber galoshes from the bottom of the closet to dress my brothers and myself in footwear that would keep our feet dry. I am sure many people remember this type of boot that had a sort of an orange trim. Unfortunately, galoshes did not always keep us dry while we played in the lake-sized puddles throughout the community. Usually the large puddles of water hid a layer of slippery ice underneath that caused us to slip and stumble into the icy water. When we arrived home soaked, mom was there to dress us in dry clothes and then she dried our wet boots and clothes over the wood stove inside our home. Remember this was not all that long ago. It took place in the 1980s. Imagine we still had a wood stove for our primary source of heat and we also did not have indoor plumbing.

When I got a little older and was able to use a snowmobile on my own, mom sometimes gave me the chore of going out to collect snow for drinking water. Collecting snow for drinking water is known as Nah-Tah-Ah-Koo-N-Neh-Oo in Cree. This was a chore I learned from helping other family members each winter as I was growing up. Snow had to be collected away from the community and in areas where snowmobiles had not travelled. There was a method of collecting this pure snow for our drinking water. First a top layer had to be cleared away to expose an underlying layer of brilliant white crystallised and granular type of snow. This was the perfect type of snow that we melted in big pots on the wood stove or if we were on the land over an open fire to provide wonderful drinking water.

I recall the first spring I was able to use a snow mobile on my own. Mom sent me out to collect snow for the last time of the season. We would soon be able to

fetch water from the river. The warm weather had melted much of the snow in town and had exposed the gravel roads in the community. To make matters more challenging, the river that I had to cross to get to good snow had become very slushy. I used the excuse that the only snowmobile I would be able to use was my dad's special Nordic 60, an oversized and powerful machine with an extra wide track, two huge skis and a large yellow cowling. I had been waiting for the right time to ask to use this rare machine which we all simply called the 'Nordic'. It was the only one of its kind in the community and I had the privilege with this chore to use it. To carry the large bags of snow back I hitched up a very solid and heavy wooden toboggan that was as wide as the Nordic and constructed to haul big loads.

I made my way across town choosing the best route over what snow remained in the community and on to a trail that led to the river. The big Nordic handled the slushy river with ease. Once I reached the far bank of the river I parked in an area of good snow and filled up ten sacks which I placed on the sled. I wanted to really impress mom and dad. A normal load would have been only about four or five of these large sacks.

When I finished, I fired up the Nordic and started to move thinking that my powerful snowmobile would easily bring me home. Surprise, surprise, the load would not budge. I worked at loosening it up for hours rather than concede that I had wanted to pull too heavy a load. Finally, the big Nordic managed to pull my gigantic load of snow home. Mom and dad were happy and quite shocked that I had managed to bring in more than enough snow to hold us over for a long time. I tried not to show it but I was exhausted and miserable, as I was soaked from head to foot. You can imagine how happy I was when the community got indoor plumbing and running water in the early 1990s.



Hôtel/Motel
Continental
Classification
★★★

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- 55 smoking rooms • 20 non-smoking rooms
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Do you have a question that you are too shy to ask your mother? The Naughty Squaw will be your confidant. No topic is too embarrassing. Send your letters by fax to (514) 278-9914 or by e-mail to nation@beesum.ca

Dear Naughty Squaw

I'm worried for my friend. For over a year she has been on a diet. What worries me is that NOBODY knows what she's doing. She doesn't eat anything all day. During the day she only drinks coffee with milk and sugar and at supper times she eats. She is so into losing weight, if she eats she'll talk about how many calories she just ate. What's wrong with her? If she gains 1 or 2 pounds she'll say "STRICT DIET" and this means even less eating at supper time. I don't know if her family notices what she's doing to herself. Is she sick? Or will she get sick?

Worried Friend

Your friend has got to learn that not eating is really DUMB. It does not lead to being healthy, fit or sexy. Not eating truly messes up your body. It weakens the immune system, interferes with your reproductive system and slows down your metabolism, which actually makes it harder to lose weight. If she continues this way, she probably will get sick, but it sounds like she is already unwell. Can you say "Anorexia Nervosa"?

Anyone who has ever glanced at a teen magazine has probably heard of this eating disorder, which mainly affects young women. Warning signs that it is actually Anorexia include being too thin for her height, an obsession with thinness or weight, excessive exercising, restricting food intake and a distorted body image. If your friend has these symptoms, all you can do is: Tell her she looks unhealthy or sick. Don't say she looks "thin" or "too thin", because thinness is her goal. Suggest that she go and talk to someone about her health. Offer to go with her.

There is tons of information about Anorexia and other eating disorders on the Internet, so I suggest you check that out, and show your friend the info. The sad thing

about Anorexia is that it won't go away with time, it only worsens. The dieting is just a symptom, not the real issue.

One theory is that these women often come from very controlling families or other situations in which they feel trapped. So they rebel by taking control of the only thing that is theirs and theirs alone—their bodies. The counting of calories and monitoring of weight gives them a sense of power over their own lives.

Dear Naughtiness

I have a problem with my boyfriend's feet. They reek when he pulls off his sneakers or boots. How do I approach him about personal hygiene without hurting his feelings? Other than the smell we have a really good relationship.

From No More Toe-Jam Please

There are two ways to approach this. If your stinky boyfriend is the sensitive kind, you might sidle up to him and say: "Sweetheart, you know I love you. And I never want to hurt you, but... your feet kinda stink. Is there any way that I can help you overcome this problem?" (At this point he should confess to you that he has been plagued by foot odor problems all his life and he is at his wit's end. "Yes," he'll say, "I would love your help. Thank you, you are an angel sent from heaven above!")

For those with thicker skin, there is always good, old-fashioned teasing. "PEE-YUUI!" you can say, grabbing your nose and fanning the air with the nearest available copy of the *Nation*. "That sh*t is toxic! Are your feet registered as lethal weapons?"

The Adventures of Nish

By Lindsay Cote





Inmet Mining Corporation
Troilus Division

Posting #182
MECHANICAL ENGINEER
(Permanent) (Maintenance)

The Troilus Division is presently searching a MECHANICAL ENGINEER (Maintenance) to join their young and dynamic management team. The Troilus Division is a gold and copper open pit mine with a mill capacity that has been upgraded to 15,000 tpd. The mine site is located at 175 km north of Chibougamau by way of the "Route du Nord". The selected candidate will work on a 4-3 schedule (4 days of work, 3 days off) and will be lodged at the site's first quality camp.

Required qualifications :

Possess a university degree in mechanical engineering or the equivalent. Be member of l'Ordre des Ingénieurs du Québec. Possess a pertinent experience (1 to 3 years) in technical and industrial support. Possess a good knowledge in the oil and vibration analysis is an asset. Possess a good knowledge of French and English (spoken and written). Possess good computer skills is a major asset. Have experience in a multicultural environment is an asset.

Main responsibilities :

- Provide services to the organization and the control of mining equipment maintenance activities;
- Participate in working-out mining equipment maintenance procedures and recommend repairs to be done;
- Provide a technical support to the mining equipment Shop Maintenance Planner;
- Analyse data and transmit recommendations on the mining equipment repairs;
- Supervise improvement projects in respect with the deadlines and costs;
- Participate to the mining equipment availability support in respect with the determined budgets;
- Participate in the improvement and the implementation of the maintenance cycle time reduction program for the production fleet;
- Participate in the maintenance department health and safety activities;
- Assist the environmental personnel in the search of solutions to avoid spills;
- Perform any other related duties.

Particularities and remuneration

Inmet Mining Corporation offers a competitive salary. The position is addressed to men and women. Inmet Mining Corporation encourages the hiring of Crees and thanks all applicants for their interest, but advises that only those selected for an interview will be contacted.

Those interested are to send their Curriculum vitae, not later than **May 30, 2002** to :

Human Resources Department
Inmet Mining Corporation
Troilus Division
P.O. Box 8700
Chibougamau (Québec)
G8P 3A9

Fax : (514) 521-8376 / (418) 748-3033



The Cree Construction and Development Company Ltd.

JOB OPPORTUNITY
KITCHEN HELPERS
and
JANITORS

The Cree Construction and Development Company is looking for Cree Candidates for its subsidiary **GESTION ADC**. The available positions are **KITCHEN HELPERS** and **JANITORS** for the upcoming contracts. This employment will be at Camp Nemiscau with 5 weeks of work (35 days) and 10 days off.

Kitchen helpers will work 10 hours a day every-day. Cleaning staff will work 10 hours a day 6 days a week, off on Sundays. Salary: \$13,82/hour as prescribed in the collective agreement.

Prior experience is preferable but not essential, Gestion ADC will provide the necessary training. Applications must be received no later than **MAY 17, 2002**

If you are interested, please send your resumé or application to:

THE CREE CONSTRUCTION AND DEVELOPMENT COMPANY LTD.

C/O Robert Baribeau -

Human Resources Advisor

187B - Main Street P.O. Box Office 1011

Mistissini (Quebec)

GOW ICO

Phone : 418-923-3888

Fax: 418 923 2050

CLASSIFIEDS

MOTHER'S DAY

Happy Mother's Day to these very special people in our lives, to our kukoms, Annette Neeposh and Dorothy Happyjack, to our great grandmothers, Jane Icebound, Helen Gull (in Waswanipi) and to Kukom Rosie Neeposh (in Nemaska), we love you all, we miss you kukom Rosie. Hope you'll come down to visit us again! Love always: Serena and Selena Gull in Waswanipi. XXX

I would like to wish a Happy Mother's Day to my mom Lily and a Happy 1st Mother's day to my sister Agnes. I love you both very much and I miss you. Enjoy our day...Happy Mother's Day!! I wish I was there celebrating with you back home. I'll be home soon. Love, Paula xxx

I would like to take this time to wish my dearest loving mother Emma Wapachee a Happy mother's day. There are no words to express how thankful I am to have you as my mother. You have touched my life with great inspiration to follow you and dad's foot prints for how well you have raised me. Now that God blessed me with 3 daughters, I promise mom, I will raise, talk & encourage them like you have done to me. I love you! May our relationship as mother and daughter grow strongly every day. Your daughter, Brenda-Rose

I would like to say Happy Mother's Day to the following people: My grandmother Nancy Rupert, My loving mother Kathleen Rupert, My aunts Lily.N, Helen.P, Margaret.F, Elizabeth.R and Sarah S-hunter and to all my short cousins who have kids of their own. And most of all my loving and wonderful cousin in Ottawa Linda Rodrigue. I miss you alot can't wait to see you again!! I Love all of you so much. From your grand-daughter, daughter, neice and cousin Bella Rupert OXOXOXO

I wanna wish a happy mother's to the most loving, caring and understanding mother in the world. Her name is Virginia Bearskin, who's in Chisasibi. I wanted to tell u that i really do love u with all my heart. I know u know that. Even though i don't say that i love u. but In my heart i have lots of love i have just for u. And remember that i will always be there for u anytime u need

me. Love always your daughter Pierrette Salt. xox\PS Myra says hubby grandmother's day gougou. I MISS YOU ALL.

This message goes out to the most loving and caring grandma in the world. And it's Hilda Salt. I wanted to tell u that i love so much and to thank you for taking good care of me and once again thank you very much for all these years that I've been living with you and especially to my grandpa and my uncles. Love you all. I don't know how to thank you but someday I will. I don't know everybody knows this that i was adopted from my grandparents. And I should say to you mamma, that your my mother. Once again happy mother's day. With all my love Pierrette xoxoxox. PS: Thank you very much for all the love you giving us me, my rash and myles...

I wanna wish a Happy Mother's Day to my very best friend and who's my mother also, Dorothy Gull Happyjack. I know it's late to wish you a Happy Mother's Day, but it's never too late to tell you how much I love you. I want you to know how lucky I am to have you as my mother and my very best friend, a friend that understands and that will always be here whenever I need a shoulder to lean on. I don't know what would I do without you. Mom, I'd be lost without you. Thank you for all the things you've given and done for me, Mom. I thank God for a wonderful mother and friend like you are. Always remember that I love you with all my heart. Mom, I'll never be far away from you. You will always be in my heart wherever I go, I always carry you with me. Mom, I love you! Love always, your one and only daughter: Melanie Gull-Neposh XXXX

I want to wish my mom Glenna Matoush a Happy Mother's Day. And also all the happiness in the world. You deserve it. Even though you're not here, you're still the best and always will be to me. Love you Mom. Love always, your daughter Rachel and grand-daughter Sky.

I would like to wish a Happy Mother's Day to the following Mothers: my mother in law Daisy, my aunts Elsie, Marjorie, Sally, Bessie, Elaine, Virginia, Sheila, Lydia, Frances and Verna. My sis-

ters in law: Florence, Tina, Rita, Jane and Valerie. My sister Louise and especially to Grannys (great grannys): Flora Bobbish, Clara Jonah, Helen Hester and Hattie Erless. Love you all, Happy Mother's Day. Love Janet.

To all the mothers at Googoom's Kitchen, I want to wish you a Happy Mother's Day. Take a day off and I'll babysit your kids. And keep up the good work. Love always! Loubit XXXX

I would like to wish a Happy Mother's Day to all my Grandmas, Great Grandmas, Aunts and especially to my God Mother. Take a break on your special day. Love always, Quentin Martinhunter XXXX

I want to wish my dear Mom Charlotte a Happy Mother's Day. I want the world to know I love you so much. Thank you Mom for your unconditional love and support. Thank you for standing with me through my difficult times. I appreciate you Mom and I love you always. God bless you. With love, your son Abel Petawabano XXX

We wanna wish a Happy Mother's Day to our loving, caring and wonderful mother Lily Diamond Gull. From your daughters: Deborah, Rachel and your sweet grand-daughter Leona Saganash. Lots of hugs and kisses. I love you coucoum.

BIRTHS

Congrats to Ruth Jolly & Capt. Ron Sheshamush on the birth of their beautiful daughter - Myra Ocean Sheshamush, born on March 26th. Take good care of her or else! By the way, Ruth, you know who to call if you run out of diapers, milk, sleep, patience, etc...lol. Take care of each other. Love always, Emma.

Congratulations! Margaret and George Swallow on the birth of their baby boy Marcus, born on April 14th 2002. Take care of your bundle of joy. From the Swallow's at E6-8 in Chisasibi.

BIRTHDAYS

Happy Birthday (DAD) Elijah! It mustn't have been easy to raise me but you did it. For a stubborn and opinionated person to raise another, it must have been a joy. Now just joshing ya. I love you no matter what our difference of opinions are,

especially on the arguments on the AIP. So, if you want the residential school syndrome leadership style to continue, I will respect your opinion but I will never agree with it. <JUST KIDDING> I love you and I am proud to be your daughter. If God foresaw how much we would fight, he must have had a reason. So for this, I thank HIM for allowing our time together to be the most challenging and most inspiring times of our lives. When you say, I can't, I know I can, and when you say I shouldn't, I know I will. Thank you for instilling determination and belief in myself. I also know there were times when you said that just to get me moving. Remember when I said I was getting married, and you totally denounced it? Do you also remember what I said? "Fine, you're not invited anyway, I don't need a man to walk me to another. I will walk down the aisle by myself." I now know what you meant, you were just being a dad watching out for his only daughter. After ten years of lessons from the school of hard knocks of Marital Bliss Collegiate, I can appreciate your concern, totally. Anyway...Happy Birthday! I know you forgot your birthday but I didn't. I LOVE YOU DAD...and I hope you remember that each and everyday. Love your daughter, Lisa

I would like to wish my friend a Happy Birthday on May 5th. To Miss Angela Tapiatic, Happy Birthday and many more to come. From friend always MaryAnne S.

I would like to wish a Happy Birthday to my friend Judy Nakagee on May 5th. Enjoy your day and many more birthdays to come! Hey, don't too much. From your friend always Leonda.

I would like to wish my children a Happy Birthday! Kenneth-April 19, Sheldon-April 23 and Katherine-April 30. May all of you have many more birthdays ahead. Love you all, Mom.

We would like to send birthday greetings to our grandchildren. Mercedes Amber-Lynn who celebrated her 1st Birthday on April 18 and Amanda Kara-Lee will be celebrating her 3rd Birthday on May 12. May both of you know how much we love you. Love always, Grandma and Grandpa.

Congratulations

Darlene Kitty



Took Registered Nursing course
at Ryerson

Spent summers in Chisasibi
as a nurse

BSC at Western University

University of Ottawa,
degree in Medicine

Will be in residency
in Northern Ontario.

Cree School Board
Post Secondary Student Services



First Cree Medical Doctor from Eastern James Bay

CLASSIFIEDS

On May 12th 1999 at 10:39 am my daughter Shawna gave birth to a baby girl. This little girl will be celebrating her 3rd Birthday already. Time sure flies. Amanda, you gave me strength when times were rough. You were my anchor when I felt no one cared. You have brought so much sunshine into my life. May you always know that I love you so so so much. Love, Grandma.

Kenneth has celebrated his birthday on April 19th. My, my, we are definitely getting old, eh? But don't you worry, you are not the only one. Most of us don't want to believe it until one morning we wake up and look at ourselves in the mirror to see a few wrinkles here and there. Then we ask ourselves, "Is that really me? Where did those wrinkles come from?" Anyway, Happy Birthday son. Love, Mom.

I would like to wish a Happy Birthday and Happy Mother's Day to my friend Melinda Gull on May 12th. Hope your day will be special as you are. And many more to come. From friend always Deborah.

Birthday Greetings to Valerie Martinhunter & Jimmy Ekomiak. Both on April 24th. Happy Birthday to you both a many more years to come. From Googooms' Kitchen. PS: Wishing everyone a Happy & Safe Goose Break.

I want to wish a Happy Belated Birthday to Diane George. She turned 24 on April 23rd in Whapmagoostui. From Mary Niquanicappo.

Happy Birthday to Marjorie Mistacheesick on May 20th. We wish you all the best and many more to come. We love you so much and we hope you have a wonderful day. Love from Walter and your children Sylvia, Neil, Samantha and Darren.

To Granny Marjorie Mist. Happy Birthday on May 20th. Granny thanks for spoiling us, even though our Mommy doesn't like it. But keep on spoiling us. We love you so very much and you are so special to us. Happy Birthday and many more to come. Hope your day will be special as you are. Take good care of yourself. From your grandchildren from next door; Matty, Cecilia and Derwin. Oh yeah Shaun says Happy Birthday too. He loves it when you spoil him

too and he loves you so much.

We would like to wish a Happy Birthday to a very special kid, Shaun Sebastian Mistacheesick. Happy 1st Birthday on May 27th 2002. Hope you have lots of fun on your day. And we hope this day will be as special as you are. And don't give a hard time to your grandparents once you start walking cause they're getting older now. Anyway we love you so much. Happy Birthday and many more to come. With lots of love, hugs and kisses from Sylvia, Matty, Cecilia and Derwin and Grandma Marjorie, Grandpa Walter, Neil, Darren and of course from Mom Samantha and Dad Leroy.

Happy 3rd Birthday to Matthew (Matty) and Cecilia G. Hughboy on May 29th. The day you were born it was the happiest day of our lives. You've brought so much joy, happiness and laughter into our lives. We love you both very much. Hope you two have a wonderful and special Birthday. Love from Mom Sylvia and Dad Jonathan and from Grandpa Walter, Grandma Marjorie, Neil, Darren, Samantha and Shaun.

I saw you one day, sitting on the couch, going through the classifieds. Were you searching for your name?? well this one's for you. Wishing my dear and beautiful daughter, Vanessa Etapp-Saganash a happy birthday on may 15th. Not only do i wanna wish you a day filled with joy and many surprises but throughout the year also. Je veux prendre ce moment pour te remercier pour l'amour don tu degage, pour ton sourire qui illumine la piece et meme un gros merci pour ses grosses baboues... we appreciate all that you do. Tu sais qu'on t'aime bien fort et pour toujours. Bizou Bizou..de Maman, Papa, Christian et ta jeune jumelle Daryl-Lynn. The answer is NO, you cannot come in any later...

I want to wish a Happy Birthday to my sister Edith Guener on May 2nd, 02 in Mist Happy Birthday my sister and many more birthdays to come, I Love when I say my sister Because I love having a sister like you, if you ever need someone to talk I'm always here you know where to reach me. >From Love, Your sis Rebecca Bearskin

Happy Belated Birthday to Sherry-Ann House on April 30,2002. May Your wishes and dreams come true. Oh Yeah!! Happy Mother's Day on May 12,2002. Take care of your future hunter. From Bella.R (Chisasibi)

Happy Belated Birthday to my silly, nerdy cousin Annie Rupert on May 7th 2002. Hey! When is your turn to have a baby?? NAH!! You don't need a baby of your own....naah?? Your just gonna play Broomball for the rest of your adult life!!(kidding) Ya know me! I'm just like you in a way but funnier - kidding!! You're a special short cousin I'm tall and you're short You're older and I'm young...5 years mook...You're special in every way stay who you are and don't let your annoying sister tell you what to do...aiight?? Luv Ya!! your next-door neighbor and cousin Bella.R (chisasibi)

We would like to wish our daughter, Valerish Wapachee a Happy 7th Birthday on May 27, 2002. Well! 7 years doesn't seem long...it seems like yesterday and we would like to wish you a happy birthday and we'll make sure you have a blast on your birthday, we could say on your special day... but we want to make each and every day special for our lil girls. You have brought so much happiness into our lives and when we watch you do things that you love to do...our hearts filled with warmth, feeling so much love we have for you. When life seems cloudy, you always know when to bring out the sun to shine in our home. You have a heart that touches us dearly for your caring ways, humor that you have in you and love for others. I know God has blessed us to have you as our daughter...We love you very berry much! Love always, Mommy & Daddy XOXOX

Birthday greetings going out to our sister Valerish on May 27th, 2002. Happy Birthday Girl! Have fun on your birthday party with your friends. We luv you! Sisters; Shelia and Baby girl (Tyra-Lynnsh)

We would like to wish our googum Madeleine Jolly a Happy Birthday and may the good Lord bless you with many more. Happy mother's day too. We love you with all our tiny hearts; Valerish, Shelia &

Baby Girl (Tyra-Lynnsh)

A belated birthday wish going out to Isaac in Whapmagoostui, hope you had a terrific day on your b/day in April. I didn't forget you, hope having an additional candle on your cake, didn't worry you, just ask for a bigger cake next time! - just joking..By the way, hope you had a successful goose hunt like always. Hope that we will remain as friends even though you are miles, miles away. Just remember that someone thinks of you often...From someone you know.

We would like to send birthday wishes to a very special boy in our lives Ethan Carter Atsynia on May 10, 2002. Happy 1st Birthday and many more to come. With love, hugs & kisses from everyone at home.

We would like to send birthday greetings to a sweet, loving,adorable little boy...Ethan Atsynia on May 10, 2002. Happy 1st Birthday and many more to come. We love you so much, you are very special. From Eleanor, Bessie, Sam & Emma Georgekish. Also from your Great Grandpa, Johnnish & Great Grandma, Beulah (Ta-ba-shooch) in Wemindji.

I would like to wish a Happy 1st Birthday to Ethan on May 10, 2002. With love from your cousin Courtney.

This birthday wish goes out to my boyfriend who's in Waskaganish. His birthday is on the 22nd of May. I know he knows his name. I wanted to tell i love you and i don't know how would i do without you. Once again hubby boutday to you. Have fun on you b-day. With love Your girlfriend. p.s Don't party too much!!!!!!

Hubby birthday to my brother Aaron Bearskin in chisasibi. He'll be celebrate his birthday on may 11.I hope you'll have fun and don't party to much.Take good care of your self. How was goose break boy, i mean man. Having fun. HEY Myra says hubby birthdat to you too. From your sis in wask.p.s Call me sometimes. Talk about your goose hunthing. xoxox

We would like to wish a Happy 14th Birthday to our special son in our lives. Harvey Henry Erless on May 2nd 2002. We love you each and everyday. We will always love you,

CLASSIFIEDS

you are special in everything you do and for us. You have grown up so fast, tall and handsome. Love you always. From your mom and dad.

I would like to wish my sister Louisa Bobbish-Blackned a Happy Birthday on April 29th. I am so glad I have a best friend like you who I can talk to and to trust, and always remember I am by your side too. From your sister Janet.

I would like to say Happy 18th Birthday to Angie Otter on May 4th. I hope you will have fun on your birthday and don't drink too much, you have Felishia to take care of. I miss you. From May 9 you know who.

Special Birthday Greetings going out on May 14th to my cousin Lianne Matoush-Pien from Kawana. And to my uncle Forrest Matoush also on May 14th. Have a wonderful Birthday. Love always, Sky Matoush (Mist) XXX

We would like to wish Happy Birthday to our sisters Dolores Tomatuk on May 10th in Eastmain, Rebecca Swallow on May 30th in Chisasibi. Enjoy your days. Take care of yourselves and we love you both. Once again Happy Birthday and many more to come. From brothers and sisters in Chisasibi.

Birthday wishes going out to the following people. Anita Swallow on April 3rd in Wemindji, Chelsea-Grace Pash on April 15th, Sara-Daisy Swallow on April 22nd, Derek Iserhoff on April 24th, Dylan Swallow on April 29th, Leslie Mayappo on May 10th in Wemindji, Terri-Lynn Napash on May 18th, Jean-Guy Pelchat on May 28th and Nancy Pelchat on May 30th. Happy Birthday to all and many more to come. From all of us at E6-8 in Chisasibi. The Swallow's.

Happy Birthday to our Auntie Dolores Tomatuk on May 10th in Eastmain. Hugs and Kisses. From your nephews Bailey (Bean), Taylor-Jay (T-J) and your nieces Joanie (Shat-Sheesh) and Christina (Abidgee). WE LOVE YOU.

Happy Birthday to my Auntie Abbaka on May 13th in Chisasibi. From Bean. Hugs and Kisses.

MISCELLANEOUS

The 1st Cree Nation Invitational Square Dance Competition is still

tentatively scheduled for July, 2002, in Val d'Or Qc. Note, please stand-by for an advertising once everything is finalized after the Goose Break in The Nation. It will mention all the age levels, prizes and everything else. Also, we must let you know ahead of time that all groups are responsible for their rooms and other expenses. So start organizing your groups, and start practicing. Have a nice Goose Break. Christopher Herodier, Eastmain Qc.

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Seeking web-master and aboriginals to learn Internet marketing for future potential self-employment. Please email resume to erland@sprint.ca. Serious only.

PERSONALS

I wanna take this time....to let you know..JERE. That i think about you day and night, there's not a time that I don't think about you. If there was no tomorrow. Then tonight would never end. If we could freeze. The hands of time. I would stay here in your arms. And not go back again. Cuz all I want, is for you to show me how cuz nothing can stop this feeling of forever. I've never felt this close to love, till i met you...When i think about you.I wanna cry. The

words you whispered to me, i'll never forget what you said. Every single night, going out from ME to U..The word that keep me wishing, that one day i'll be kissing you. Here in my heart. That's where you'll be JERE. You'll be with me. Here, in my heart. NO distance can keep us apart. Long as you're here in my heart. I know you'll be back again. And til then. My love is waiting for you JERE. Well i guess that's it for now...XOXOXO LOVE..ANGIE see ya soon BABY. be nice with yo mama & papa. don't party too much.

I'd like to say Hi to my cousin who's in Great Whale, Jennifer Mark. Hey there you! How is it going up there? I hope everything is going well for you. I'm hoping to see you soon girl. I miss you and I miss your kids. Better yet, come back! Call me ok. And a big hello there to my aunt and uncle, Kitty and Ronnie M. Love you, miss you. From Ehgoon-nee in Waswanipi. XXX PS: Hi to Mr. Larry.

We would like to say Hi to our Aunts and Uncles who are in Waskaganish. Ricky, Stella, Angela and Germain. Hello guys and H-E-L-L-O ladies, how is it going? I hope everything is going well. We hope to see you guys very soon. Hi to our cousins, Nigel, Nat, Sonny Boy and Baby Treasure and Geanna S. We hope to see you guy too. From Nika Capissisit and Darius-Joe B/Smith. PS: (Germain) uncle you monkey (by D.J.)

This message goes to my brother Germain and Angela. Hey you's! How is it going? How's baby'sh? I hope she's doing fine. I hope to see you 3 soon. I miss you and love you's. Hi to my other brother Rick and his wife and kids. Hope to see you's soon too. Until then, take care. Luv you guys. From sister in Was. XXX PS: Peanut said you abandoned her (ha, ha).

We would like 2 say "Hello" 2 our friend in Mist, Roberta Hester. What's up gurl? We haven't heard from u in a while. When R U coming back 2 Wask? Hoping soon, cause we can't wait to party with u. Anyways take care and we hope 2 C U soon. From your buddies in Wask.

I would like to say a few words to someone in Waswanipi. Our love that we had could have been something more than fooling around. You should have think twice, instead you broke my heart and I broke your heart worse than I can imagine. Now we are falling apart. I guess we are not meant to be. One thing hurts me the most, loosing you and our daughter, but still you're the one who hurts the most. I'm sorry a billion times. I guess for us love comes by and goes by. I guess I'm not the one for you. I will always remember you. I will miss you. Take good care of the little one. From someone who used to love you, and still do love you.

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